

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6395

BILL NUMBER: SB 250

NOTE PREPARED: Jan 17, 2013

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Petition Carriers.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Walker

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: CR Adopted - 1st House

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
X DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: The bill requires an individual who circulates a petition that is required to place a candidate or a public question on the ballot to provide on each signature page of the petition: (1) the individual's identification information; and (2) a signed affirmation, under penalties of perjury, that the individual has no reason to believe that any signer on the page is ineligible to sign the petition or did not properly complete and sign the page. The bill provides that a signature page that does not comply with these requirements is void.

Effective Date: July 1, 2013.

Explanation of State Expenditures: *Penalty Provision:* Perjury is a Class D felony. A Class D felony is punishable by a prison term ranging from six months to three years or reduction to Class A misdemeanor depending upon mitigating and aggravating circumstances. Assuming offenders can be housed in existing facilities with no additional staff, the marginal cost for medical care, food, and clothing is approximately \$3,234 annually, or \$8.86 daily, per prisoner. However, any additional expenditures are likely to be small. The average length of stay in Department of Correction (DOC) facilities for all Class D felony offenders is approximately ten months.

Explanation of State Revenues: *Penalty Provision:* If additional court cases occur and fines are collected, revenue to both the Common School Fund (from criminal fines) and the state General Fund (from court fees) would increase. The maximum fine for a Class D felony is \$10,000. However, any additional revenues would likely be small.

Explanation of Local Expenditures: *Penalty Provision:* If more defendants are detained in county jails prior

to their court hearings, local expenditures for jail operations may increase. However, any additional expenditures would likely be small.

Explanation of Local Revenues: *Penalty Provision:* If additional court actions occur and a guilty verdict is entered, local governments would receive revenue from court fees. However, the amounts would likely be small.

State Agencies Affected: Department of Correction.

Local Agencies Affected: Trial courts, local law enforcement agencies, county election boards.

Information Sources:

Fiscal Analyst: Chris Baker, 317-232-9851.